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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor Siegfried MANTL et al  
Patent App. US Nat'l phase of PCT/DE2004/000780  
Filed Concurrently herewith  
For METHOD FOR PRODUCING A STRAINED LAYER ON A  
SUBSTRATE...  
Art Unit Not known  
Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination of the above-identified application,  
please amend as follows:

In the translation serving as Specification:

Page 1, before Paragraph 1 insert